

Claims

1. A tamper-indicating article for attachment to a surface of a substrate comprising (a) a retroreflective sheet and (b) an adhesive layer,

5 wherein said retroreflective sheet comprises

a reflective layer,

a non-silicone-based release layer adjacent to said reflective layer, and

a layer of lenses overlying said release layer and positioned in optical connection with said reflective layer so as to produce retroreflection; and

10 wherein the article exhibits an interlayer cohesive failure at the release layer of the retroreflective sheet when an attempt is made to remove the article from the substrate surface.

2. A tamper-indicating article according to claim 1, wherein said release layer is discontinuous.

3. A tamper-indicating article according to claim 2, wherein the retroreflective sheet further comprises an ink layer; said ink layer located between the reflective layer and the adjacent release layer.

4. A tamper-indicating article according to claim 1, wherein the article substantially retains interlayer cohesive failure characteristics at the release layer of the retroreflective sheet after a dwell time of 24 hours at 23°C and 50% relative humidity on a substrate surface.

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5. A tamper-indicating article according to claim 1, wherein the release layer is made of a material selected from the group consisting of polyester resins, polyacrylate resins and mixtures thereof.

- 30 6. A tamper-indicating article according to claim 1, wherein the retroreflective sheet exhibits a tensile strength at break greater than 7.8 N/mm².

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7. A tamper-indicating article according to claim 1, wherein the retroreflective sheet exhibits an elongation at break greater than 40%.

5 8. A tamper-indicating article according to claim 1, wherein the retroreflective sheet has two major surfaces and said adhesive layer is adjacent to the major surface of the retroreflective sheet near said reflective layer and distant to said layer of lenses of the retroreflective sheet.

10 9. A tamper-indicating article according to claim 1, wherein the reflective layer contains at least one set of axial markings which are viewable as an image from the front-side of the retroreflective sheet within a limited range of angles.

15 10. A tampering-indicating article according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer is a pressure-sensitive adhesive layer.

11. A tamper-indicating article according to claim 10, wherein the pressure-sensitive adhesive layer is a film of pressure-sensitive adhesive or a pressure-sensitive adhesive-coated tape that can be removed from the substrate surface, without exhibiting cohesive failure, by stretching said film or said tape.

20 12. A substrate bearing an article according to claim 1.

13. Use of an article according to claim 1 for preparing labels or stickers.

25 14. Use of an article according to claim 13 for preparing temporary labels or stickers.

15. Use of an article according to claim 1 as a label or sticker.

30 16. Use of an article according to claim 15 as a temporary label or sticker.